

1 CLAIMS

2 1. A storage device comprising a carousel having a plurality of locations disposed
3 about an axis to receive articles, a delivery station axially spaced from said locations and
4 a robotic device located within said carousel to transfer articles between one of said
5 locations and said delivery station, said robotic device being moveable radially relative to
6 said axis toward and away said locations and axially to between said delivery station and
7 said location to facilitate transfer of articles within said carousel.

8 2. A storage device according to claim 1 wherein said robotic device is rotatable
9 about said axis to permit alignment with different ones of said locations.

10 3. A storage device according to claim 2 wherein said delivery station is located at
11 one end of said carousel.

12 4. A storage device according to claim 3 wherein said delivery station is located at a
13 lower end of said carousel.

14 5. A storage device according to claim 4 wherein said carousel is located on a plinth
15 and said delivery station is located within said plinth.

16 6. A storage device according to claim 5 wherein said robotic device is operable in
17 said delivery station to move an article radially between said delivery station and a
18 workstation disposed about said plinth.

19 7. A storage device according to claim 5 wherein said plinth is inset from said
20 carousel.

21 8. A storage device according to claim 1 wherein said robotic device includes an
22 arm supported on a body and extendible toward and away from said locations.

23 9. A storage device according to claim 8 wherein said body is displaceable within
24 said carousel along said axis.

25 10. A storage device according to claim 9 wherein said body is rotatable within said
26 carousel.

27 11. A method of moving articles between a delivery station and storage locations in a
28 carousel, said method comprising the steps of moving said article radially between said
29 location and an interior of said carousel and axially within said carousel to said delivery
30 station.

- 1 **12.** A method according to claim 11 including the step of rotating said article within
- 2 said carousel to orient said article relative to said carousel.
- 3 **13.** A method according to claim 12 including the step of moving said article radially
- 4 at said delivery station toward a workstation.